

**Seventeenth Loksabha**

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**Title: Regarding Establishment of an Agricultural Disaster Compensation Fund- Laid.**

**SHRI POCHA BRAHMANANDA REDDY (NANDYAL):** Every year, States in particular, face at least one severe flood which wipes out a significant portion of the farmers' crop. Given that agriculture is an important sector for these states, sustained losses in their primary mode of livelihood year after year, pushes farmers to the brink. In 2021, due to heavy floods, a large quantum of chillies was lost in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, farmer suicides rose and the debt cycle also increased.

Additionally, the cost of agricultural inputs is on the rise. Amongst others, fuel prices have hit an all-time high and fertilizer black marketing has become extremely common. Farmers are consistently pushed into further debt with no assurance of any profits.

Special circumstances of disasters are becoming a recurrent feature, rather than an exception. In order to make the process of compensation, with a delineated chain of command, easier and more structured, as well as a right, an Agricultural Disaster Compensation Fund needs to be established at the earliest.